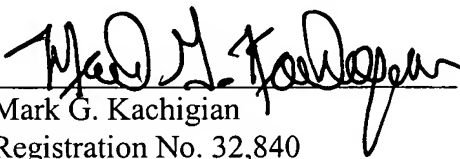


REMARKS

The present application is a continuation of pending Application No. 09/918,900, now U.S. Patent No. 6,578,146.

It is believed the application is now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark G. Kachigian", written over a horizontal line.

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